E/1998/25
E/CN.9/1998/9

United Nations

Commission on Population and Development

Report on the thirty-first session
(23-27 February 1998)

Economic and Social Council
Official Records, 1998
Supplement No.5

E/1998/25
E/CN.9/1998/9

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United Nations • New York, 1998

NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures.

ISSN 0251-7760

SUMMARY

The thirty-first session of the Commission on Population and Development was held at United Nations Headquarters from 23 to 27 February 1998. Its central theme was health and mortality, with special emphasis on the linkages between health and development, and on gender issues and the family.

The documents before the Commission included a report on world population monitoring, focusing on the theme of the session. The report provided a summary of recent information on selected aspects of health and mortality and covered such topics as levels and trends of mortality; child survival and health; primary health care and the health-care sector; women's health and safe motherhood; human immunodeficiency virus and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS); the epidemiological transition; health and mortality policies; activities of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations with respect to health and mortality; and health and development. Other reports covered the monitoring of population programmes; activities related to health and mortality of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) Task Force on Basic Social Services for All; activities of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in the area of reproductive rights and reproductive health; flows of financial resources in international assistance of population; programme performance and implementation in the field of population in 1997; and the proposed programme of work for the biennium 1998-1999.

The Commission also had before it for consideration the report of its Bureau at the Bureau's 1997 meeting, in which the Bureau made recommendations to the Commission concerning working methods for the Commission, and the quinquennial review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, as well as proposals for the themes of, and reporting structure for, future sessions of the Commission. The Commission, at its thirty-first session, agreed to the recommendations of the Bureau. Among other things, the Commission approved "Gender, population and development" as the special theme for the thirty-third session of the Commission.

As requested by the Bureau of the Commission at its 1997 meeting, the Commission considered and approved the outline for the quinquennial review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development as prepared by the Director of the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat.

The Commission considered follow-up actions to the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development and adopted a resolution on health and mortality in which the Commission called for further action by Governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations to facilitate exchange of information, to determine the causes of the stagnation or increase of mortality among adults in some countries and to increase efforts to lower mortality and improve health. The Commission also recommended to the Economic and Social Council the adoption, at its substantive session of 1998, of two draft resolutions. In one resolution, the Council, emphasizing the importance of population census activities for evaluation of progress in implementing the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, would invite Governments to give priority to the planning and undertaking of the next census, recommend the collection and analysis in the census of data on mortality, and call upon relevant

organizations of the United Nations system and donor Governments to provide the necessary support in undertaking censuses.

The Commission recalled General Assembly resolution 52/188 of 18 December 1997 in which the Assembly, inter alia, decided to convene a special session in order to review and appraise the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and also decided that the Commission, at its thirty-second session, should serve as the preparatory body for the final preparations for the special session. In that regard, the Commission recommended to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the second of the above-mentioned draft resolutions, in which the Council would request the Secretariat to prepare and make available to States a comprehensive plan for the preparatory process; indicate the number and focus of the reports on this subject to be prepared for the Commission at its thirty-second session; and decide that the length of the thirty-second session of the Commission should be extended to seven working days.

Bearing in mind that the Commission at its thirty-second session would also serve as the preparatory body for the special session of the General Assembly, the Commission approved the provisional agenda for its thirty-second session and recommended to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of a draft decision in which the Council would also approve the provisional agenda for the thirty-second session of the Commission set out therein.

The Commission also adopted its report on its thirty-first session.

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Chapter I

MATTERS CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OR BROUGHT TO ITS ATTENTION

A. Draft resolutions

1. The Commission on Population and Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Importance of population census activities for evaluation of progress in implementing the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development*

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1995/7 of 19 July 1995 in which it urged Member States to carry out population and housing censuses during the period 1995-2004,

Taking into account the report of the Working Group on International Statistical Programmes and Coordination at its nineteenth session, 10-13 February 1998,[1] which, inter alia, addresses the prospects for the 2000 round of population and housing censuses,

Emphasizing the importance of up-to-date population and housing census information for implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[2] at the country level and for decision-making by Governments on a wide range of policy issues,

Mindful of the technical limitations of sample surveys as vehicles for the collection of data on adult mortality, and recognizing that methods exist for the collection of data on deaths in households in the course of a population census,

1. Invites Governments to give priority to the planning and undertaking of the next population and housing census;

2. Recommends that countries lacking adequate vital statistics systems give due consideration to the collection and analysis of data in the 2000 round of population censuses for the estimation of levels of mortality;

3. Calls upon relevant organizations of the United Nations system, donor Governments, through multilateral and bilateral mechanisms, and non-governmental organizations to provide the necessary support to those countries in need in

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* For the discussion, see chap. II.

[1] To be issued.

[2] Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

respect of undertaking such censuses, including the building of national capacity in this field.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development*

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 52/188 of 18 December 1997 on population and development,

Noting the work being done by the relevant United Nations bodies and the proposed outline of the United Nations Secretariat for the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General on the quinquennial review and appraisal of progress made in achieving the goals and objectives of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[3] while bearing in mind the views expressed by Member States at the thirty-first session of the Commission on Population and Development,

Stressing the need to ensure that the review of the outcome of the International Conference on Population and Development will be a coordinated process which reinvigorates and strengthens efforts at the local, national and international levels to fully implement the Programme of Action,

1. Requests the United Nations Secretariat to prepare, as soon as possible and no later than the end of June 1998, and to make available to States a comprehensive plan, including a timetable, for the preparatory process of inter-agency consultations, technical meetings and round-table meetings, including those at the regional level, setting out the purpose, working methods and key anticipated outcomes of each and how they will contribute to the review and appraisal report. In preparing this plan, the Population Division of the United Nations Secretariat and the United Nations Population Fund should work closely together, as they did in the preparations for the International Conference on Population and Development, and in consultation, as appropriate, with other relevant bodies, and hold regular briefings for States;

2. Requests that the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General on the quinquennial review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development to be coordinated by the Population Division, the report of the international forum on the operational review of the Programme of Action to be coordinated by the United Nations Population Fund, and the draft report of the Secretary-General for the special session of the General Assembly on the further implementation of the Programme of Action to be coordinated also by the Population Fund, all of which are to be prepared for the Commission on Population and Development at its thirty-second session, should focus on, inter alia:

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* For the discussion, see chap. II.

[3] Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

(a) Analysis of key successes and constraints as well as lessons learned in developing effective strategies and actions in the implementation of the Programme of Action and changes in policy, programmes and resource allocations at the national and international levels towards a more comprehensive achievement of the goals of the Conference;

(b) Strengthening coordination throughout the United Nations system and among the United Nations system, Governments and other actors, such as the multilateral development banks and civil society;

(c) Domestic, bilateral and multilateral resources made available as of 31 December 1998; estimates of resources expected to be made available as of 31 December 1999; examples of effective and efficient use made of available resources, and circumstances for improving the environment, with a view to increased financial support from the international community for population and development activities;

(d) Methodology and mechanisms for monitoring progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action;

3. Decides that the length of the thirty-second session of the Commission on Population and Development shall be extended to seven working days in March 1999.

B. Draft decision

2. The Commission on Population and Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

Report of the Commission on Population and Development on its thirty-first session and provisional agenda for the thirty-second session of the Commission

The Economic and Social Council:

(a) Takes note of the report of the Commission on Population and Development on its thirty-first session;

(b) Approves the provisional agenda for the thirty-second session of the Commission set out below.

Provisional agenda for the thirty-second session of the Commission on Population and Development

A. COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT ACTING IN REGULAR SESSION

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda of the regular session of the Commission on Population and Development and other organizational matters.

3. World population situation.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on world demographic trends

4. Follow-up to actions on the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development:

(a) Population growth, structure and distribution;

(b) Technical Symposium on International Migration and Development.

Documentation

Concise report of the Secretary-General on world population monitoring: population growth, structure and distribution

Report of the Secretary-General on the flow of financial resources in international assistance for population

Report on the Technical Symposium on International Migration and Development

Report of the ACC Task Force on Basic Social Services for All, dealing with the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

5. Work of the Commission on Population and Development in the next quinquennium.

6. Programme implementation and future programme of work of the Secretariat in the field of population.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on programme implementation and the programme of work for the biennium 1998-1999: Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs

7. Provisional agenda for the thirty-third session of the Commission.

Documentation

Draft provisional agenda for the thirty-third session of the Commission on Population and Development

8. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirty-second session.

B. COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT ACTING AS PREPARATORY BODY FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON REVIEW AND APPRAISAL OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda of the Commission on Population and Development acting as preparatory body for the special session of the General Assembly and other organizational matters.

3. Preparation for the special session of the General Assembly.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the review and appraisal of the progress made in achieving the goals and objectives of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

Report of the international forum on the operational review of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

Draft report of the Secretary-General for the special session of the General Assembly on the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

4. Adoption of the report of the Commission at its thirty-second session, acting as preparatory body.

C. Matters brought to the attention of the Council

3. The following resolution and decision adopted by the Commission are brought to the attention of the Council:

Resolution 1998/1. Health and mortality*

The Commission on Population and Development,

Recalling health-related recommendations of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[4]

Reaffirming the commitment of Member States to the implementation of these recommendations and, in particular, to the objective of reducing disparities among and within countries in health, morbidity and mortality,

Expressing concern that global challenges, including emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases such as malaria, human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) and tuberculosis, are significant new threats to gains achieved thus far in infant, child and maternal mortality and to countries' efforts to improve reproductive health, child health and adolescent health,

Expressing concern also that many developing countries face constraints, such as in financial and human resources, that hinder their capacity to assure

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* For the discussion, see chap. II.

[4] Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

better health conditions and life expectancy for their population, as well as the capacity to monitor health and mortality trends,

Expressing further concern that, as life expectancy has decreased, male mortality has increased and a number of other health and vital indicators have worsened in countries with economies in transition as well as in some developing countries, many countries (seventy-one countries as projected by the United Nations) are not expected to accomplish their life expectancy goals by the year 2005, and about 44 per cent of developing countries are not expected to meet the goals for the year 2000 for infant and under-five mortality,

Recognizing that progress in implementing the health-related recommendations and achieving significant health gains depends on preventing disease, promoting healthy lifestyles and improving health systems,

1. Calls upon the relevant bodies of the United Nations system to work in close coordination with each other, and with other international organizations and non-governmental organizations, in cooperation with Governments, in strengthening national capacities to collect, analyse and utilize health and mortality data at both national and local levels, in the priority areas of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, including infant, child, adolescent and maternal health and mortality; sexual and reproductive health, with special attention to family planning, sexually transmitted infections and human immunodeficiency virus/ acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS); and violence against women and children and female genital mutilation and other harmful practices; and in the areas of infectious disease, substance abuse and measurement of adult mortality and morbidity;

2. Requests the Population Division of the United Nations Secretariat and United Nations Population Fund to explore ways and means, such as the establishment of an internationally accessible electronic database, to facilitate the exchange of information among all relevant actors on various levels concerning best practices and lessons learned in the implementation of the Programme of Action;

3. Welcomes the encouraging evidence of actions being undertaken by Governments, international organizations and the non-governmental sector in response to the challenges of the Programme of Action related to health and mortality, and stresses the need for strengthening such actions, in particular in the least developed countries;

4. Calls for assistance to developing countries to strengthen their national health services, including, inter alia, transfer of technology for building their capacity to produce basic and essential drugs;

5. Calls upon Governments, in particular donor Governments, to support, with the assistance of international and non-governmental organizations, efforts to determine the causes of the stagnation or increase of mortality among the adult population of countries with economies in transition, as well as in some developing countries, and to act upon that knowledge to shape public-health interventions and other appropriate measures to combat such detrimental trends;

6. Urges Governments to consider undertaking information, education and communication campaigns that raise awareness about widespread health risks, and emphasize behavioural changes that have proved to be effective in reducing those risks, especially in relation to the spread of HIV infection, maternal mortality

and infant mortality, in the prevention of the detrimental health effects of smoking, in the promotion of a healthy diet and in the abatement of deaths and injuries due to accidents, as well as positive effects of reproductive health interventions;

7. Calls upon Governments to renew and reaffirm their commitment to the objective of reducing disparities in health and mortality, among countries and within countries, particularly those disparities related to socio-economic differentials, and to give special emphasis to the needs of the disadvantaged and vulnerable groups of society;

8. Urges Governments, assisted upon request by the international community, to strengthen their efforts to achieve the health and mortality goals set by the Programme of Action, in cooperation with non-governmental organizations, the private sector and local communities.

Decision 1998/1. Special theme for the Commission in the year 2000*

The Commission on Population and Development decides that "Gender, population and development" shall be the special theme for the Commission at its thirty-third session in the year 2000.

* For the discussion, see chap. II.

Chapter II

FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

A. Health and mortality

4. The Commission on Population and Development held a general discussion of item 3 (a) of its agenda, entitled "Follow-up actions to the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development: health and mortality", at the 1st to 3rd meetings, on 23 and 24 February 1998. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Concise report of the Secretary-General on world population monitoring, 1998: health and mortality (E/CN.9/1998/2);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the monitoring of population programmes: programme experience in implementing health and mortality activities (E/CN.9/1998/3);

(c) Report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination Task Force on Basic Social Services for All: health and mortality (E/CN.9/1998/4);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the activities conducted by non-governmental organizations and intergovernmental organizations in sexual and reproductive health and rights: three years after the International Conference on Population and Development (E/CN.9/1998/5);

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on the flows of financial resources for population activities (E/CN.9/1998/6).

5. At the 1st meeting, on 23 February, the Director of the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat made an introductory statement.

6. At the same meeting, the Assistant Director and Chief of the Demographic Analysis Branch of the Population Division introduced the concise report of the Secretary-General on world population monitoring, 1998: health and mortality (E/CN.9/1998/2). The special discussant, Mr. Shiro Horiuchi of The Rockefeller University, also made a statement.

7. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Belgium, Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union, and associated countries), the United States of America, China, the Sudan, the Russian Federation, Jamaica and Turkey.

Reports contained in documents E/CN.9/1998/3-6

8. At the 2nd meeting, on 23 February, the Director of the Technical and Policy Division of the United Nations Population Fund made an introductory statement. Introductory statements were also made by the representative of the Technical and Policy Division of the United Nations Population Fund, who introduced the report of the Secretary-General contained in document E/CN.9/1998/3; the Deputy Director of the Technical and Policy Division and

Chief of the Policy Branch of the United Nations Population Fund, who introduced the report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination Task Force on Basic Social Services for All contained in document E/CN.9/1998/4; the Chief of the Technical Branch of the Technical and Policy Division of the United Nations Population Fund, who introduced the report of the Secretary-General contained in document E/CN.9/1998/5; and the representative of the Technical and Policy Division of the United Nations Population Fund, who introduced the report of the Secretary-General contained in document E/CN.9/1998/6.

9. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Bangladesh, the Sudan, Ukraine, Egypt, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Sweden, Jamaica, Algeria, the Republic of Korea and Japan. The representative of the World Health Organization made a statement. The representative of the International Organization for Migration also made a statement. Statements were also made by the representatives of the Committee for International Cooperation in National Research in Demography (a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, Roster) and Advocacy for Women's Health (a working group of international non-governmental organizations).

10. At the 3rd meeting, on 24 February, statements were made by the representatives of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

11. At the 7th meeting, on 27 February, the representative of the American Association of Retired Persons, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, made a statement.

B. Process for the quinquennial review and appraisal in 1999

12. The Commission on Population and Development held a general discussion of item 3 (b) of its agenda, entitled "Follow-up actions to the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development: process for the quinquennial review and appraisal in 1999", at the 2nd and 3rd meetings, on 23 and 24 February 1998.

13. At the 2nd meeting, on 23 February, the Director of the Population Division introduced a draft outline of the quinquennial review and appraisal.

14. At the same meeting, the representative of Canada made a statement.

15. At the 3rd meeting, on 24 February, the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund made a statement.

16. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Japan, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union, and associated countries), the Sudan, Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), the United States of America, Brazil, India and Sweden.

C. Action taken by the Commission

Importance of population census activities for evaluation of progress in implementing the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

17. At the 7th meeting, on 27 February 1998, the Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Mr. Robert Louis Cliquet (Belgium), introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.9/1998/L.3) entitled "Importance of population census activities for evaluation of progress in implementing the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development", which was submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

18. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted draft resolution E/CN.9/1998/L.3 (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I).

Health and mortality

19. At the 7th meeting, on 27 February, the Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Mr. Robert Louis Cliquet (Belgium), introduced and orally revised a draft resolution (E/CN.9/1998/L.4) entitled "Health and mortality", which was submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

20. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted draft resolution E/CN.9/1998/L.4, as orally revised and amended during the discussion (see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 1998/1).

21. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), the United States of America, the Russian Federation and Bangladesh.

22. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Mexico, Malta, the Philippines, the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Sudan.

23. At the same meeting, the observer for the Holy See made a statement.

Review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

24. At the 7th meeting, on 27 February, the Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Mr. Robert Louis Cliquet (Belgium), introduced and orally revised a draft resolution (E/CN.9/1998/L.5) entitled "Review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development", which was submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

25. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted draft resolution E/CN.9/1998/L.5 (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution II).

26. Before taking a decision on the extension of its thirty-second session as proposed in operative paragraph 3 of the draft resolution, the Commission was informally apprised of the programme budget implications of the decision. The extension of the session by two days would not entail additional requirements for the travel of representatives. However, the extension would entail the provision of four additional meetings with interpretation services in the six

official languages. It was anticipated that the volume of the documentation would remain the same. However, the timing of the thirty-second session (in 1999) would need to be reviewed to take into account the proposed two-day extension and the availability of conference facilities. The conference-servicing requirements for the four additional meetings were estimated at $28,600 at full cost. The extent to which the Organization's permanent capacity would need to be supplemented by temporary assistance resources could be determined only in the light of the calendar of conferences and meetings for 1999. However, provisions had been made under section 1B, General Assembly affairs and conference services, of the programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999, not only for meetings programmed at the time of budget preparation but also for meetings authorized subsequently, provided that the number and distribution of meetings were consistent with the pattern of meetings of past years. Therefore, no additional appropriation was to be required by the Commission's decision to extend the thirty-second session to seven days.

27. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland made a statement on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union, and associated countries.

Special theme for the Commission in the year 2000

28. At the 7th meeting, on 23 February, following a statement by the Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Mr. Robert Louis Cliquet (Belgium), the Commission decided that the special theme for the Commission at its thirty-third session in the year 2000 would be "Gender, population and development" (see chap. I, sect. C, decision 1998/1).

Chapter III

GENERAL DEBATE ON NATIONAL EXPERIENCE IN POPULATION MATTERS: HEALTH AND MORTALITY

29. The Commission on Population and Development held a general discussion of item 4 of its agenda, entitled "General debate on national experience in population matters: health and mortality", at the 3rd to 5th meetings, on 24 and 25 February 1998.

30. At the 3rd meeting, on 24 February, statements were made by the representatives of Bangladesh, Japan, China, Thailand, Kenya, Algeria, Canada, Pakistan, Mexico and the Russian Federation.

31. At the 4th meeting, on 24 February, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America, the Republic of Korea, Egypt, the Niger, South Africa, Brazil and Ethiopia and the observer for Poland.

32. At the 5th meeting, on 25 February, statements were made by the representatives of India, Jamaica, El Salvador, Malta, Ukraine, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Turkey, Malaysia, Sweden, the Sudan, Indonesia, Peru and Malawi and the observers for Switzerland and the Holy See.

Chapter IV

PROGRAMME QUESTIONS

33. The Commission on Population and Development held a general discussion of item 5 of its agenda, entitled "Programme questions", at the 5th and 6th meetings, on 25 February 1998. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the progress of work in the field of population in 1997: Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (E/CN.9/1998/7);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General on the programme of work in population for the biennium 1998-1999: Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (E/CN.9/1998/8);

(c) Note by the Secretary-General on the programme of work for the biennium 1998-1999: Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (E/CN.9/1998/CRP.1).

34. At the 5th meeting, on 25 February, the Director of the Population Division made an introductory statement.

35. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America, Bangladesh, the Republic of Korea and India and the observer for the Holy See. The representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations made a statement. The representative of the Population Institute (a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, Roster) also made a statement.

36. At the 6th meeting, on 25 February, statements were made by the representatives of Brazil and Kenya. The representative of the World Health Organization made a statement. Statements were also made by the representatives of the Economic Commission for Europe, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia and the Economic Commission for Africa.

Chapter V

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE THIRTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

37. At the 7th meeting, on 27 February 1998, the Commission approved the draft provisional agenda for its thirty-second session as contained in document E/CN.9/1998/L.6 (see chap. I, sect. B, draft decision).

Chapter VI

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON ITS THIRTY-FIRST SESSION

38. At the 7th meeting, on 27 February 1998, the Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur introduced the draft report of the Commission on its thirty-first session (E/CN.9/1998/L.2).

39. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft report and authorized the Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur to finalize it in consultation with the Bureau by incorporating therein the proceedings of its final meeting.

Chapter VII

ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

A. Opening and duration of the session

40. The Commission on Population and Development held its thirty-first session at United Nations Headquarters from 23 to 27 February 1998. The Commission held 7 meetings (1st to 7th meetings). A number of informal consultations were also held under the chairmanship of the Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Mr. Robert Louis Cliquet (Belgium).

41. The session was opened by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, who also made a statement.

42. Opening statements were also made by the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund and the Director of the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat.

B. Attendance

43. The session was attended by 41 States members of the Commission. Observers for other States Members of the United Nations and for two non-member States also attended. Representatives of specialized agencies, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations also attended. A list of participants is given in annex I to the present report.

C. Election of officers

44. At the 1st, 2nd, 4th and 7th meetings, on 23, 24 and 27 February 1998, the Commission elected the following officers by acclamation:

Chairman: Raj Karim (Malaysia)

Vice-Chairmen: Robert Louis Cliquet (Belgium)
Osmane Mahamane Tandina (Niger)
Yurly Bohaievs'ky (Ukraine)

Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur: William Toro Cabrera (Peru)

D. Report of the Bureau on its inter-sessional meeting

45. At the 1st meeting, on 23 February 1998, the Commission heard a statement by Mr. Rudolfo Tuirán (Mexico), who introduced the report of the Bureau on its inter-sessional meeting (E/CN.9/1998/CRP.2), held under his chairmanship in Mexico City on 12 and 13 September 1997.

46. At the same meeting, the Commission took note of the report of the Bureau on its inter-sessional meeting.

E. Agenda

47. At the 1st meeting, on 23 February 1998, the Commission adopted the provisional agenda contained in document E/CN.9/1998/1, as modified upon the recommendation of the Bureau at its inter-sessional meeting. The agenda was as follows:

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters:

   (a) Report of the inter-sessional meeting of the Bureau;

   (b) Organization of work;

   (c) New proposals: reporting requirements and other proposals.

3. Follow-up actions to the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development:

   (a) Health and mortality;

   (b) Process for the quinquennial review and appraisal in 1999.

4. General debate on national experience in population matters: health and mortality.

5. Programme questions:

   (a) Programme performance and implementation in 1997;

   (b) Proposed programme of work for the biennium 1998-1999.

6. Provisional agenda for the thirty-second session of the Commission.

7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirty-first session.

F. Documentation

48. The documents before the Commission at its thirty-first session are listed in annex II to the present report.

G. Consultation with non-governmental organizations

49. In accordance with rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, representatives of the following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council, made statements in connection with agenda item 4:

General consultative status: American Association of Retired Persons

Roster: Committee for International Cooperation in National Research in Demography
Population Institute

H. Other organizational matters

50. At the 1st meeting, on 23 February 1998, the Director of the Population Division made a statement on reporting requirements and also drew the attention of the Commission to agreed conclusions 1997/2 of the 1997 coordination segment of the Economic and Social Council[5] on mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system.

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[5] See document A/52/3, chap. IV, sect. A, para. 4.

Annex I

ATTENDANCE

Members*

Algeria:	Abdallah Baali, Rachida Benkhelil, Zineddine Birouk, Abderrahmane Merouane
Bangladesh:	Muhammad Ali, Anwarul Karim Chowdhury, F. A. Shamim Ahmed, Muhammad Ali Sorcar
Belgium:	Alex Reyn, Robert Louis Cliquet, Michel Loriaux, Ronald Schoenmaeckers, Evelyne Thiltges, Johan Debar, Hugo Brauwers, Ariadne Petridis
Brazil:	Bruno de Risios Bath, Lucimar Coser Cannon, Antonio Ricardo Fernandes Cavalcante
Bulgaria:	Philip Dimitrov, Zvetolyub Basmajiev
Canada:	Ross Hynes, Mary Jane Green, Danielle Testelin, Elissa Golberg, Drew McVey
China:	Li Honggui, Zhu Yaohua, Ding Xiaoming, Wu Guagao, Hu Hongtao, Zhang Yang, Wang Qun
Congo:	Désiré Nkounkou
Côte d'Ivoire:	Youssoufou Bamba, Largaton Outtara
Egypt:	Nabil Elraby, Moshira El Shffie, Adel Abdellatif, Mohamed Fattah
El Salvador:	José Roberto Aguilar Alvarez, Carlos Enrique García González
Ethiopia:	Mekonnen Manyazewal, Negussie Tefera, Daniel Taye
France:	Janie Letrot-Hadj Hamou, Carla Saglietti, Philippe DeLacroix, Jean-Marc Chataigner, Patrick Festy, Francis Gendreau, Philippe Collomb
Germany:	Wolfgang Runge, Charlotte Hoehn, Doris Hertrampf, Jutta Burghardt, Monika Allramseder, Reiner Schulz
Hungary:	Peter Józan

* Cameroon, Nigeria and the Syrian Arab Republic were not represented at the session.

India:	Y. N. Chaturvedi, Padam Singh, G. Mukhopadhaya, Nandhini Iyer Krishna
Indonesia:	Arizal Effendi, Siswanto Agus Wilopo
Iran (Islamic Republic of):	Bagher Asadi, Ali-Akbar Sayarl, Mohammad-Reza Hadji Karim Djabbary, Mohammad Asai-Ardakani
Jamaica:	M. Patricia Durrant, Easton Williams, David Allen Prendergast
Japan:	Masaki Konishi, Makoto Ato, Wataru Nishigahiro, Koichiro Yamauchi, Yutaka Yoshino
Kenya:	Simon B. A. Bullut, Njuguna M. Mahugu, R. A. Odera
Malawi:	Chrissie Nancy Mwiyeriwa, C. Moyo, Din Balakasi
Malaysia:	Raj Abdul Karim, Aminah Abdul Rahman, Siti Hajj[illegible]in
Malta:	Joseph Camilleri
Mexico:	Rodolfo Tuirán, Miguel A. Lezana, Elena Zuniga, Gerardo Lozano
Netherlands:	P. J. M. Verbeek, Th. C. M. Klück, Jenny Gierveld
Niger:	Ousmane Mahamane Tandina, Garba Bassirou
Panama:	Judith M. Cardoze, Natalia Royo
Peru:	William Toro Cabrera, Elena Conterno, Alfredo Chuquihuara
Philippines:	Felipe Mabilangan, Maria Lourdes V. Ramiro Lopez, Linglingay F. Lacanlale, Libran Cabactulan, Glenn F. Corpin
Republic of Korea:	Nam-Hoon Cho
Russian Federation:	Vladimir L. Sokolin, Igor A. Zlokazov, Vassili A. Nebenzia, Aleksandr A. Pankin, Dmitri I. Maksimivich, Sergey O. Federov
South Africa:	Ayanda Ntsaluba, Moleboheng Lehutso-Phooko, Maurice Seaton, Thomas Rambau
Sudan:	Mohammed Ahmed Taha

Sweden:	Bertil Egerö, Hans Lundborg, Magnus Lennartsson, Per Augustsson, Mikael Hammarskjöld, Rolf Larsson
Thailand:	Damrong Boonyoen
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia:	Naste Calovski, Igor Dzundev, Donka Gligorova, Katerina Kostadinova Daskalovska
Turkey:	Samira Yener, Burak Özügerin, Feza Öztürk
Ukraine:	Olexandr G. Osaulenko, Yurly Bohaievs'ky, Vlodymyr Reshetnyak, Oleksly Golubov
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland:	John Weston, John Hobcraft, Phil Mason, Peter Gooderham, Alison Blackburne, Matthew Taylor, Ian Felton
United States of America:	Betty King, Margaret J. Pollack, Seth Winnick, Barbara Crane, Thomas M. McDevitt, Pamela Quanrud, Peter O. Way, O. Massee Batemen, Peggy Kerry, Jill Sheffield, Sarah Craven

States Members of the United Nations represented by observers

Andorra, Austria, Benin, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cuba, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Guinea-Bissau, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Suriname, Zimbabwe

Non-member States represented by observers

Holy See, Switzerland

United Nations Secretariat

Department of Economic and Social Affairs (Population Division), Economic Commission for Africa, Economic Commission for Europe, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

United Nations bodies

United Nations Population Fund

Specialized agencies

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, World Health Organization, International Monetary Fund

Intergovernmental organizations

European Community, International Organization for Migration

Non-governmental organizations

General consultative status: American Association of Retired Persons

Special consultative status: Commonwealth Medical Association
International League for Human Rights
International Union for the Scientific Study of Population

Roster: Committee for International Cooperation in National Research in Demography
Population Institute

Annex II

LIST OF DOCUMENTS BEFORE THE COMMISSION AT ITS THIRTY-FIRST SESSION

Document symbol	Agenda item	Title or description
E/CN.9/1998/1	2	Provisional agenda for the thirty-first session of the Commission
E/CN.9/1998/2	3	Concise report of the Secretary-General on world population monitoring, 1998: health and mortality
E/CN.9/1998/3	3	Report of the Secretary-General on the monitoring of population programmes: programme experience in implementing health and mortality activities
E/CN.9/1998/4	3	Report of the ACC Task Force on Basic Social Services for All: health and mortality
E/CN.9/1998/5	3	Report of the Secretary-General on activities conducted by non-governmental organizations and intergovernmental organizations in sexual and reproductive health and rights: three years after the International Conference on Population and Development
E/CN.9/1998/6	3	Report of the Secretary-General on the flows of financial resources for population activities
E/CN.9/1998/7	5	Report of the Secretary-General on the progress of work in the field of population in 1997: Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs
E/CN.9/1998/8	5	Note by the Secretary-General on the programme of work in population for the biennium 1998-1999: Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs
E/CN.9/1998/L.1	2	Note by the Secretariat on the organization of the work of the session
E/CN.9/1998/L.2	7	Draft report of the Commission on its thirty-first session

Document symbol	Agenda item	Title or description
E/CN.9/1998/L.3	3 (a)	Draft resolution entitled "Importance of population census activities for evaluation of progress in implementing the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development", submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Mr. Robert Louis Cliquet (Belgium), on the basis of informal consultations
E/CN.9/1998/L.4	3 (a)	Draft resolution entitled "Health and morality", submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Mr. Robert Louis Cliquet (Belgium), on the basis of informal consultations
E/CN.9/1998/L.5	3 (b)	Draft resolution entitled "Review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development", submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Mr. Robert Louis Cliquet (Belgium), on the basis of informal consultations
E/CN.9/1998/L.6	6	Note by the Secretariat on the provisional agenda for the thirty-second session of the Commission
E/CN.9/1998/CRP.1	5	Note by the Secretary-General on the programme of work for the biennium 1998-1999: Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs
E/CN.9/1998/CRP.2	2 (a)	Report of the Bureau of the Commission on Population and Development at its inter-sessional meeting, held in Mexico City on 12 and 13 September 1997